

# Audition Packet for

## The Minutes

by Tracy Letts

Directed by Aaron Wineman

### PERFORMANCE DATES

FRIDAY, NOV 14 at 7:30pm  
SATURDAY, NOV 15 at 7:30pm  
SUNDAY, NOV 16 at 2pm  
FRIDAY, NOV 21 at 7:30pm  
SATURDAY, NOV 22 at 7:30pm

BIG CHERRY  
CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING  
AGENDA

BIG  
CHERRY  
HERITAGE  
FESTIVAL

WHERE  
ARE THE  
MINUTES?

ITEM 7.1  
ACCESSIBLE  
FOUNTAIN



WHAT  
HAPPENED TO  
MR. CARP?

## ABOUT THE PLAY

“This scathing new comedy about small-town politics and real-world power, from the author of *August: Osage County*, exposes the ugliness behind some of our most closely-held American narratives while asking each of us what we would do to keep from becoming history’s losers.”

[-concordtheatricals.com](http://concordtheatricals.com)

“The Minutes”, by Tracy Letts, (*Bug, August: Osage County*) takes place during one evening at a city council meeting in a small town. Mr. Peel, who recently moved with his family, and is the newest elected council member, is still trying to fit in and understand the local politics of his new home. What starts off as a hysterical comedy about buffoons trying to be politicians, turns into a darker story that shows how desperately people need to see themselves as the “good guys”.



### NOTE TO ACTORS

Do to the subject matter of this show, you are strongly encouraged to read the script before auditioning. I also strongly recommend you familiarizing yourself with Old Town Playhouse’s “Discrimination, Harassment and Intimidation” policies as well as Old Town Playhouse’s “Attitude and Professionalism” expectations, both listed at the bottom of this packet.

This show’s themes deal HEAVILY with politics, religion and racism, and we will be discussing those topics EXTENSIVELY. If cast in this show, be prepared to have discussions about these topics, and be willing to have the uncomfortable conversations. Thank you for considering coming out to audition for Old Town Playhouse’s production of “The Minutes”. We look forward to seeing you!

Aaron Wineman, Director of Old Town Playhouse’s, “The Minutes”

### **REHEARSAL DAYS AND LOCATIONS**

REHEARSALS WILL TAKE PLACE AT OLD TOWN PLAYHOUSE  
SUNDAY-WEDNESDAY FROM 6:45PM-9:15PM. LONGER SUNDAY  
REHEARSALS MAY BE REQUIRED, SO PLAN ACCORDINGLY.

## **CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS**

MR PEEL- White male

MAYOR SUPERBA- White male

MR. ASSALONE- White male

MR. BREEDING- White male

MRS. JOHNSON- White female

MR. HANRATTY- White male

MR. BLAKE- Black male

MR. OLDFIELD- White male

MS. INNES- White female

MS. MATZ- White female

MR. CARP- White male

**PLEASE READ OVER SIDES  
BELOW FOR AUDITION**

# SIDE# 1

## HANRATTY+PEEL+BLAKE

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HANRATTY  
Shame about Carp.

PEEL  
Is it?

HANRATTY  
Yes. *I* think so. A man down.

PEEL  
Down *how*?

BLAKE  
A bad man down is no tragedy.

PEEL  
Mr. Carp isn't a bad man,

BLAKE  
I didn't say he was.

HANRATTY  
And I didn't say it was a tragedy. I said it was a shame.

PEEL  
I'd like to know what happened, exactly-

HANRATTY  
Hey, Peel, the accessible fountain is on the docket tonight.

PEEL  
I told you I'd support that.

HANRATTY  
Right, but is it half-hearted support? Is your attitude casual? I'd like to know I can count on you.  
I know it's not your bill. But it's a cause you can believe in,



PEEL

Yes, I believe in it. I believe in inclusion.

HANRATTY

Inclusion, right, I think it's important that we reach out to everybody.

PEEL

Everybody.

HANRATTY

I mean, the unrepresented.

BLAKE

No one's representing them,

HANRATTY

I still think we need to reach out to them, even if we don't have any of them on our board.

BLAKE

Because his sister is handicapped.

HANRATTY

My God, Blake, are you behind on the nomenclature. "Handicapped" went out with sodomy laws.

BLAKE

Don't we still have sodomy laws?

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## SIDE# 2

### SUPERBA+MATZ+INNES+BREEDING+ASSALONE

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SUPERBA

Ms. Matz?

*(Surprised to be called on, MATZ stands, spills some pills and pill bottles from a plastic bag.)*

MATZ

Yes?

SUPERBA

You're chairperson of the Council Rules Committee.

MATZ

Yes, I am.

SUPERBA

Is there a committee meeting scheduled in the near future?

MATZ

That would depend on your definition of future.

SUPERBA

"Events that will happen in the time to come."

MATZ

Then yes, of course.

INNES

All due respect, my piece doesn't address council rules, per se. It has more to do with spirit.

BREEDING

Spirit in what sense?

INNES

Esprit de corps.

BREEDING

Couldn't you just summarize the piece?

INNES

I could, but I don't think it would do the piece justice.

BREEDING

Does the piece deserve justice?

INNES

Don't all pieces?

BREEDING

No.

INNES

I write better than I speak.

BREEDING

Most of us write better than we speak, but that doesn't mean we go around reading pre-written statements aloud.

INNES

Maybe *you* don't.

BREEDING

You do?

INNES

When permitted.

BREEDING

Are you often permitted?

INNES

I am occasionally permitted.

ASSALONE

For God's sake, just let her read it.

SUPERBA

All right, Ms. Innes, go ahead.

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## SIDE #3

# SUPERBA+HANRATTY+OLDFIELD+BREEDING+ASSALONE

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SUPERBA

All right, so we can move on to our next item, 7.1. The fountain at Mackie Creek Park. Mr. Hanratty, you have the floor.

HANRATTY

Yes, I would like to discuss the fountain.

BREEDING

*(Sotto voce)* Here we go.

HANRATTY

Here we go: So, just so you understand, I've had some visual aids drawn up.

*(HANRATTY gets the posters he entered with, erects them on an easel. The top one is a very simple, large outline map. HANRATTY uses a laser pointer for his presentation.)*

HANRATTY *(cont.)*

Just to orient you. This is City Hall. This is the old Rexall Drug. Right? Here's the battlefield. Mackie Creek, of course. And right here is the current fountain.

OLDFIELD

Now Harry, what am I looking at here? Is this a medallion?

HANRATTY

What? A medallion?

OLDFIELD

Is this a medallion of some sort, a hood ornament? It spins with the wind, that sort of thing?

HANRATTY

No, George. It's... it's a *map*. Of the park.

OLDFIELD

Got it.



HANRATTY

You know this fountain. People without disabilities are able to walk up to it, up those old, circular stone steps, and sit on the edge, have an ice cream. Some throw a coin.

OLDFIELD

And what is the purpose of those coins?

HANRATTY

What?

OLDFIELD

To what end do they put coins in the fountain?

HANRATTY

To make a wish.

OLDFIELD

The wishes cost money?

HANRATTY

Uh.

ASSALONE

For God's sake, George.

OLDFIELD

What?

ASSALONE

You aren't familiar with the tradition of tossing a coin in a fountain and making a wish?

OLDFIELD

Excuse me, friends, I'll shut up.

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## SIDE #4- JOHNSON

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### JOHNSON

Number One. Welcome and Overview. Mayor Superba called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and, due to the closed meeting, dispensed with the invocation. The council recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Superba then asked if there were any announcements. Mr. Carp then announced to the group that Mr. Peel was not in attendance because his mother had just passed away and Mr. Peel was attending her funeral on the coast. Mr. Carp then passed around a sympathy card for Mr. Peel and all the members of the board signed it. Mr. Carp planned to present the card to Mr. Peel at the next board meeting.

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## SIDE # 5- CARP

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### CARP

“A boy from our camp had gone out for days to hunt. He came back very excited. He told the men he had found a big herd one-day’s ride away. And a group of men rode out with that boy to find the four-leggeds. They were excited because the herds had become so sparse and the freezing moon was coming. We lived by the ricer, we were they people who gather the fish from the water, but four-legged beings meant we could get through the freezing moon. So they rode away. And it was that night that the soldiers showed up in our camp.

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## Discrimination, Harassment, and Intimidation

OTP is committed to maintaining an environment which fosters respect among all staff and volunteers. Unlawful discrimination, harassment, and intimidation undermines the integrity of our working relationships and disrupts the operation and management of OTP and our productions, events, and activities.

Accordingly, OTP will not tolerate any form of unlawful discrimination, harassment, or intimidation which is based upon a person's race, religion, disability, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, national origin, height, weight, marital status, veteran status, or any other basis protected by applicable law.

OTP expects all of its staff and volunteers (including but not limited to cast and crew members, and members of any production management team) to conduct themselves with dignity and with respect for fellow staff, volunteers, the general public, and others. We each have the right to work and participate in an environment free from discrimination, harassment, and intimidation. Any staff members or volunteers who witness or are subjected to any form of unlawful discrimination, harassment, or intimidation should immediately report such conduct to the Artistic Director or Executive Director.

All claims of unlawful discrimination, harassment, or intimidation will be promptly investigated, and appropriate remedial action will be taken, up to and including dismissal or replacement, when warranted by the circumstances. To the extent feasible, complaints will be handled confidentially.

Concerns can be raised in good faith without fear of reprisal or retaliation. OTP prohibits retaliation against a staff member or volunteer for making a good faith complaint under this policy or assisting in

## Attitude and Professionalism

Frequently, the first or only person a patron has contact with at Old Town Playhouse is a volunteer. As ambassadors for Old Town Playhouse, it is essential that volunteers are professional, accessible, and welcoming. This is true for not only patrons, but also staff and fellow volunteers.

As a cross-section of the community, we're all coming from different places and beliefs. Once together at OTP we are working toward a common goal. With this in mind, OTP expects all volunteers to comply with the following and promote a positive OTP environment:

- Treat everyone with dignity and respect.
- Comply with all applicable laws.
- Exhibit a spirit of professionalism.
- Be prepared for rehearsals, if applicable.
- Be open to receiving supportive and constructive feedback.
- Address conflict, if any, in a respectful and professional manner.
- Work together to keep OTP a place where people can learn, grow, and have fun.

Should concerns or conflicts arise within a production there is a Concern Resolution Path (provided below) that we follow at Old Town Playhouse.